



Chapter 2: Book Burning



...Father,
do you know
of this?

Solange...
what
happened?
You look
angry.



It's an
obscene
novel.

"Toilette
and Madame
Gnac,"



Did she
finally
figure
out...





*It was so disgusting,
I'd like to confront
the author
face-to-face!!*

*I could
not
believe
what I
saw
inside!*



*Earlier,
Jean-Louis
and Claude
told me they
brought a
book they
wanted me
to read!!*



*...that
I wrote
it...!?*



*They
were
grin-
ning
the
whole
time!!*



*In order
to make a
living, I had
no choice
but to--*



*So, to
those two
nasty little
brats, I
said:*



Oh...



*Read a
respect-
able book
written
by my
father!*

*You
should*



There!

Um...



It'd be
a tough
read for
you kids.

I wrote that
pamphlet
around the
time of the
election.



Rather
than that,
together with...
Jean-Louise and
Claude, was it?
It'd be good for
you to learn some
of these words
you don't
know yet.



From now
on, I'll read
this to them
every day.

*"Arise,
Members
of the Third
Estate."*



There's no
way I could
go to that
school with
them.



You
know, Father
Marchand has
opened a small
school just
outside our
village.



Something
bad?



It's
about...



Will
you allow
me to say
something
bad about
the Father?

Well,



Why not?



See you
tomorrow.

A strange
rumor going
around
about Father
Marchand.



I need you
to help me
with some
chores, as
usual.

Roland, will
you go to
the church
with me?



We
gotta tell
Solange's
dad!

That's
Roland!



Do you
two want
to come
to the
school,
too?

Jean-Louis/
Claude!





*I heard that
Roland was
here!*



*Father
Marchand!*



*Please
open the
door, Mon
Père!*



*If he's
there,
I have
something
urgent to
tell him!*





Roland's
mother has
suddenly
fallen ill.



He must
be called
home as
soon as
possible.





After that, I'll send him along.

He also got his clothes wet; they still need to dry.

Let me do it instead.

A little while ago, Roland knocked over a water jug.

...But...



You're Catholic too, aren't you?



He's clearing it up right now.



So just quietly obey me.

My word is that of God.

d'accord?



...You're Roland's father, aren't you?



I need to talk to you about your son.



My name is Gideon Rimmé.



Why are you saying you can't accuse him?



Why?



.....





Can't you
at least *not*
send him to
that school?

...But,



He's the
Father's
favorite.

That
won't
work.



Things
would just
get worse.

If I did
that,



Isn't
that
child
dear to
you *at
all*?!

You...

If it
were my
daughter
that had
caught his
eye...

If-





Then
Marchand
said this:



The first
thing I
did was
protest.



...Since
I'm his
father,



Because...



No need for
you to act this
desperate for
Roland's sake.



"There's



Your
child...

Right?

Is not



Roland





Which one?

There's a book I want you to get for me.



You...!! Why do you want such a dangerous book?!



I'll put volume five at priority if you do.

Please.



Hey, Alain, you know some people at the print shops, don't you?



Hm? Naturally, since I'm a publisher.



I'll have to do it.

If no one will do anything,

You're still working on volume five of "Toinette," non?

Hey.

*March burning - large scale organized burning of Catholic books and documents. The Parlement the largest legal body in the time period and the only body that was aware of the importance of Catholicism.

Yeah.

Doesn't look like anyone saw us.

This came all the way from Switzerland.

It's because of the order from the Parlement of Paris to include it in the book burnings* of 1770.

There aren't many of these anymore.

*Système de Nature (The System of Nature). One of the few documents that have made it into the Catholic library.

I'll forge Marchand's handwriting.

In this book.

It's a book written by an atheist* that is very hostile towards Catholicism.

D'Holbach's "Système de la Nature" Volume 2.

SYSTEME
DE LA
NATURE
OU
L'ETAT NATUREL
DE L'HOMME
PAR M. MIRABEAU



And have someone discover it by "chance."

I'll hide it in the church's library.

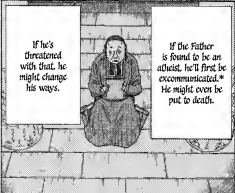


Its credibility will increase.

If I write in the style of Marchand's hometown of Lorraine.



The problem is...

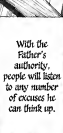


If he's threatened with that, he might change his ways.

If the Father is found to be an atheist, he'll first be excommunicated.* He might even be put to death.



Church officials
would also
be useless.



With the
Father's
authority,
people will listen
to any number
of excuses he
can think up.



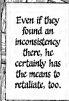
It
can't be a
commoner.



Who will
discover
the book?



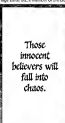
If it goes
poorly, he
really will
get the death
sentence.



Even if they
found an
inconsistency
there, he
certainly has
the means to
retaliate, too.



*These incidents, showing instances in life, such as many saints, bishops, etc., a member of the clergy will perform a ceremony to ward off evil. God's blessing on the person involved.



Those
innocent
believers will
fall into
chaos.



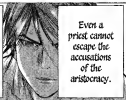
As a result
of that, what
would happen
if all of the
sacraments*
Marchand
performed in
this village
were negated?



...For
this.



I need
someone I
can tell about
this who will
lend me their
aid.



Even a
priest cannot
escape the
accusations
of the
aristocracy.

It has
to be a
noble.



If such a
noble even
exists...!





Gideon.

I came
to fulfill my
promise of
our reunion,



Georges!

.....



I was wondering what became of those who live in the village.

Since Marquis Arnaud died,

Can I ask you to...?

It's an awful story.



Leave it to me.





*I have
to oil
you up,
tooooo-*



*As
usual,*



*Where
aaaare
you-P*



*Rooo-
laaand,*



*Don't
make a
sound.*

Silence.



The
Duke of
Loire,

Georges
vi.

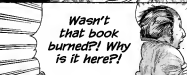
Wh...
Who are
you?!



This
book
in your
church's
library.



I
found



*Wasn't
that book
burned?! Why
is it here?!*



*Th...
That's
"Système de
la Nature"
Volume 2!*



*Was it
not you
two that
brought
that book
here?!*



I
don't
know
...!

This
must
be a
hoax!



This is
your hand
writing, is
it not?

I was
surprised
to find out
you were
an atheist,
Mon Père.

That's
exactly
right.

.....

What
mischief
is this?

Even a
member of
the aristocracy
would dare
insult the
clergy like
this?

Did you
say you're
the Duke
of Loire?

What?

Say
something.

.....









If all of the sacraments that the Father performed up until now are negated, it's the end of for this village.



The villagers are in chaos.



Stood up for this boy.

...No one



Have you any complaints?



I wonder if it isn't their punishment.

The fate God gave to these villagers...





Nothing
to fear.

There is



There is
no such
thing as
God.

...Because in
this world,